



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 12, 1997

### **H.R. 1309**

**A bill to provide for an exchange of lands with the city of Greeley, Colorado, and the Water Supply and Storage Company to eliminate private inholdings in wilderness areas, and for other purposes**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on November 5, 1997*

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Because H.R. 1309 would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply; however, CBO estimates that such effects would total less than \$15,000 per year. H.R. 1309 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. The exchange authorized by this bill would be voluntary on the part of the city and the company.

H.R. 1309 provides that if the city of Greeley, Colorado, and the Water Supply and Storage Company offer to transfer their interest in 708 acres of land described in the bill to the United States, then within one year the Secretary of Agriculture would convey to the city and company in exchange 1,176 acres of federal land, including eight reservoirs. The city and company now occupy 447 acres of that federal land to operate the reservoirs under perpetual easements. Once the exchange is completed, H.R. 1309 would rescind all special use permits and easements on the federal land conveyed to the city and company. Land acquired by the United States in the exchange would be added to the Roosevelt National Forest.

Under current law, the city and company are making annual payments over a 50-year period for the perpetual easements. By rescinding the easements, enacting H.R. 1309 would result in a loss of those receipts. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates the loss would total less than \$15,000 per year.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Victoria V. Heid. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.